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C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 011030

SIPDIS

WHA/CCA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/28/2015

TAGS: ETRD ETTC PREL

SUBJECT: CUBA: NSC-DIRECTED COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY REVIEW

REGARDING SUSPENSION OF TITLE III OF THE LIBERTAD ACT

REF: SECSTATE 207359

Classified By: Charge d Affairs Milton K. Drucker for reasons 1.5 b&d.

¶1. (C) Colombia has cut off and reestablished diplomatic relations with Cuba multiple times in the past, the bilateral relationship is currently stable, with Colombia generally exercising a "hands off" policy.

¶2. (C) Colombia has not been a member of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (UNHCR) since 2001. Colombia abstained on the Cuba Resolution in 2001.

¶3. (C) Post is not aware of significant new investments in Cuba or any official visits by senior Colombian government officials over the past six months.

¶4. (C) Colombia's exports to Cuba are generally declining according to Proexport, Colombia's export promotion authority. Colombia exported about USD 63 million worth of goods in 2002, USD 61 million in 2003, USD 33 million in 2004, and USD 29 million for the period January-July 2005. In 2004, leading exports from Colombia to Cuba were in these sectors: agro-industrial (37.54 percent), chemicals (10.17 percent), coal (7.53 percent), and construction materials (6.78 percent).

DRUCKER